

**In the Description:**

Q' On p. 1, line 6, between "This application" and "is related to", insert ~~-~~claims the benefit of Fulton et al., U.S. Provisional Application No. 60/156,952, filed September 29, 1999, and --.

In accordance with the petition submitted herewith, re-insert pages 15 and 17. ME

**REMARKS**

Applicant respectfully requests that the foregoing amendments be made prior to examination of the present application.

After amending the claims as set forth above, claims 1, 3, 8-14, and 16-17 are now pending in this application.

The cancellation of claims above was made solely to reduce the excess claim fees due in the present application and not for any reason related to patentability. Applicant reserves the right to prosecute the subject matter of the cancelled claims in this or any appropriate application.

Favorable consideration of the application as amended is respectfully requested.

No fee is believed due in connection with this communication. However, if any fee is due, kindly charge the appropriate amount to **Deposit Account No. 50-0872.**

The Examiner is invited to contact the undersigned by telephone if it is felt that a telephone interview would advance the prosecution of the present application.

Respectfully submitted,

Date 17 January 2001

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